

WHAT IS REASONABLE PARENTING TIME?

Reasonable parenting time means that parenting time will be what the parents agree on. That means that mom and dad need to work together to decide when the parent who doesn't live with the children will spend time with them. For some parents, this works very well because they can make flexible plans based on the children's needs. For other parents, the amount of communication this requires and the difficulty they have reaching agreements can create problems. If reasonable parenting time is not working for your family, it may be helpful to have your order changed to include specific days and times when parenting time is to take place. This way, the Friend of the Court can help enforce parenting time, if needed, and you and the children can count on a set schedule of time.



If you need a specific order for parenting time and you think the other parent will agree to developing a schedule with you, you may write to us asking for [mediation](#) or the two of you can work together to enter a stipulated order. If you don't think you and the other parent will be able to agree, you may [file a motion on your own](#) or talk to an attorney about filing a motion for you. Either way, Kent County has created a [Guideline for Parenting Time](#) that may be useful as you develop a specific parenting time order.

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APRIL 2015

Helpful reminders:

Plan summer parenting time early to avoid problems when summer arrives.

Always keep your address up to date with us, not just the post office. If you receive child support on a debit card, be sure to keep. U.S

The court works through written orders. Keep a copy of your own court order handy.

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

April is national child abuse prevention month. [The Children's Bureau](#) is a national organization that provides information for parents and for those who work with parents about building solid families and preventing child abuse. This includes [fact sheets](#) in English and Spanish about topics related to families and preventing child abuse, including:

- Keeping your family strong
- Feeding your family
- Preventing child sexual abuse
- Managing stress
- Connecting with your teen
- Many other topics related to families and children

KENT COUNTY FRIEND OF THE COURT

Our mission:

To assist the Family Division of the Circuit Court in facilitating the resolution of domestic relations matters so that children's best interests are protected.

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foc.mail@kentcountymi.gov

Or visit Kent County's [website](#) for employment opportunities with Kent County and the FOC.

I HAVE PAID THE ARREARS ON MY CASE. WHEN WILL THE EXTRA MONEY FOR ARREARS STOP COMING OUT OF MY CHECKS?

Once MiCSES, our computer system, determines your arrears are paid in full, it will automatically reduce your income withholding to collect only the current monthly amount. The timing may be confusing because your balance changes with each charge and each payment that is applied during a month. For example, it may take a few days or a week for payments deducted from your check to be received and applied to your accounts. You may confirm your balance is zero and when your payments were applied by logging onto [MiCase](#) or by calling our IVR at 616-632-6800.

Once our system sends a modified income withholding notice to your employer, they have seven (7) days to change to the new amount. It may take your employer a little longer if the notice is received right after they process payroll. If the change in withholding has not been made after two pay periods, please let us know. We may need to contact your employer. We can also check to see if additional amounts were received after your arrears were paid. If additional funds have been received and have not yet been distributed, we can take steps to refund that additional amount to you. If the payment has already been distributed, it may take some time but we will work with you and your employer to resolve the problem.

If you have more than one case, the process becomes more complicated. In that situation, you may wish to contact your case manager at foc.mail@kentcountymi.gov.

Next Month: My support was reduced which led to me being overpaid. When and how will I get my overpayment back?

RAPID MOBILE APP

Taking the bus is easier now, thanks to the RapidConnect app for iPhone and iPad.

- You can plan your trip from your phone
- See your bus' exact current location
- Find the nearest stop.
- Find out if your bus is running late and by how long.
- You can even ask RapidConnect/MyStop to alert you before your bus arrives so you never miss your bus. Choose your route, your stop, the time you would like to depart and the amount of notice you would like to receive.

This app helps take the guess work and waiting out of riding the bus. More information about MyStop is available [here](#). For information about the Rapid and RapidConnect, go to <https://www.ridetherapid.org/>.

